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12 JAN 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Officer, DD/S&T

SUBJECT: Director's Briefing Book

Enclosed is a joint OEL/OSA update for the
Director's Briefing Book.

/s/ John N. McMahon

JOHN N. McMAHON
Director of ELINT
DD/S&T

(Signed)

for WENDELL L. BEVAN, JR.
Brigadier General, USAF
Director of Special Activities

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Attachment
As stated

Distribution:

- Cys 1 & 2 - Add'e
- 3 - OSA [redacted]
- 4 - OSA Reg [redacted]
- 5 - D/OEL
- 6 - PPC/OEL
- 7 - DD/S&T Reg
- 8 - OEL/Reg

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OEL/PPC [redacted] (11 Jan 73)

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DD/S&T Activities Overseas

I. The threat posed by the USSR and Communist China to our national security relates closely to the progress each has achieved in advanced weapons systems development. The Agency's ability to assess the significance of these developments in the missile, space and nuclear fields depends heavily upon the effectiveness [redacted] of our technical collection programs overseas, [redacted]

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A. The CIA U-2R aircraft are maintained at two operating locations; Edwards AFB, California [redacted] The purpose of these elements is to provide a world-wide, rapid response, overhead or peripheral reconnaissance capability.

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~~B.~~ [redacted]

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[redacted] coverage of the PRC coastal facilities. The significance of recent photo intelligence collected from these efforts is limited by the U.S. Government policy prohibiting an approach closer than 25 NM to the mainland.

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[redacted]
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[redacted]

D. The Edwards Detachment serves as a test and development center for U-2 [redacted] 25X collection systems. Additionally, they maintain a capability to deploy to any operating locations and conduct reconnaissance missions in response to National requirements. All CIA U-2 pilot training is conducted at this detachment.

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F. Currently, Edwards U-2R's are photographing
controlled poppy growth areas

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G. In summary, the U-2 aircraft offers several distinct
advantages as a collection system: (1) it can respond to
crisis situations anywhere in the world within 50 hours;

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[redacted] and (3) it may be launched from and
recovered by aircraft carriers on the high seas.

* H. On 12 August 1972 the 40 Committee approved
continuation of the IDEALIST Program until such time as

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DD/S&T Activities Overseas

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A. The CIA U-2R aircraft are maintained at two operating locations; Edwards AFB, California [redacted] The purpose of these elements is to provide a world-wide, rapid response, overhead or peripheral reconnaissance capability.

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B. [redacted] coverage of the PRC coastal facilities. The significance of intelligence collected from these efforts is marginal due to the U. S. Government policy prohibiting an approach closer than 25 NM to the mainland.

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DD/S&T Activities Overseas

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B. [redacted] coverage of the PRC coastal facilities. The significance of intelligence collected from these efforts is marginal due to the U. S. Government policy prohibiting an approach closer than 25 NM to the mainland.

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F. Currently, Edwards U-2R's are photographing
controlled poppy growth areas [redacted]

[redacted]

G. In summary, the U-2 aircraft offers several
distinct advantages as a collection system: (1) it can
respond to crisis situations anywhere in the world within
50 hours; [redacted]

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25X1 [redacted] and (3) it may be launched
from and recovered by aircraft carriers on the high seas.

H. Approval for the continuation of the IDEALIST Program
was given by the 40 Committee during their meeting on
18 August 1970. On 5 August 1971 higher authority approved
continuation of the U-2 IDEALIST Program [redacted]

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[redacted]

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